



DISASTER NEWS

Economic Injury Loans for Small Businesses

Date: June 21, 2004
Release Number: 04-164

Contact: Michael Lampton
Phone: (817) 868-2300

SBA Economic Injury Loan Deadline is July 21 *Business owners still have time to apply*

FORT WORTH, TX -- Businesses in some New Mexico, Colorado, Oklahoma, Texas, and Utah counties have until **July 21, 2004** to file applications for low-interest disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). The SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loans are available for businesses dependent on farmers and ranchers sustaining crop losses due to drought that occurred from January 1, 2003, and continuing. Farmers and ranchers are not eligible for these SBA loans. However, nurseries that are victims of drought disasters can apply. Businesses in the following counties are eligible to apply:

New Mexico:

The entire State

Colorado:

Archuleta
Baca

Conejos
Costilla

La Plata
Las Animas

Montezuma

Oklahoma:

Cimarron

Texas:

Andrews
Bailey
Cochran
Culberson

Dallam
Deaf Smith
El Paso
Gaines

Hartley
Hudspeth
Loving
Oldham

Parmer
Reeves
Winkler
Yoakum

Utah:

San Juan

Applications and further information can be obtained by calling the SBA toll-free at 1-800-366-6303 or TDD 817-267-4688 for the hearing impaired.

These loans are intended to assist businesses in offsetting working capital losses which they suffered as a result of the severe weather reducing the crop income of the area farmers and ranchers. Small businesses claiming to have been physically injured by the disaster are not eligible.

#####

For more information visit SBA's website at www.sba.gov/disaster.